

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**  
Anchorage Field Office  
**Office of Community Planning and Development**  
3000 C Street, Suite 401  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
<http://www.hud.gov/alaska>

January 12, 2017

The Honorable Bill Walker  
Governor, State of Alaska  
Post Office Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Walker

Subject: 2015 Program Year Review Letter

HUD is required by federal regulations to review, on an annual basis, the performance of each jurisdiction that receives grant funding through the consolidated plan process. Pursuant to title 24 of the code of federal regulations part 91.525(b), this letter serves as HUD's written performance report.

HUD is obligated to determine on an annual basis that the state of Alaska (SOA) has a continuing capacity to implement and operate programs for which HUD assistance is received, primarily, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

The Program Year Review Letter serves as the mechanism for HUD to communicate to the SOA and citizens the results of HUD's determinations for the program year. The following is HUD's analysis for the period, July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, designated as program year 2015 (PY15). PY15 is the first year of the state's latest five-year Consolidated Housing & Community Development Plan that covers the state fiscal years 2016 – 2020 (Consolidated Plan).

### **Community Development Block Grant**

The SOA's Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA), is charged with programmatic responsibility for the administration of the CDBG program. For PY15 the SOA received a CDBG allocation of \$2,509,768.

The SOA reports it awarded CDBG funds to six communities in PY15. Those CDBG funds will be used to create a suitable living environment, through targeted community development and planning activities, to the benefit of 2,772 low and moderate-income persons.

## **Emergency Solutions Grant**

The ESG program is administered by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC). For PY15 the SOA received an ESG allocation of \$215,620. These ESG funds were distributed on a competitive basis to five agencies located in Juneau, Fairbanks, Kodiak and Wasilla. During PY15 ESG funds provided homeless prevention, rapid re-housing and shelter support that resulted in 1,038 persons being assisted.

## **HOME Investment Partnerships Program**

The HOME allocation for the SOA is also administered by AHFC. The SOA received an allocation of \$3,002,167 in HOME funds for PY15. During PY15 HOME 18 rental housing units were constructed. In addition, 60 households were assisted with tenant based rental assistance. HOME funded homeownership activities assisted 65 households during the program year. Total HOME funded activities during PY15 will provide improved affordability and/or sustainability of decent housing for 143 families.

## **Other HUD Programs**

AHFC continues to serve as Alaska's statewide public housing authority (PHA). For PY15 AHFC continued participation in the Moving to Work (MTW) demonstration program. The MTW demonstration is overseen by HUD through the Office of Public and Indian Housing. Full reporting and correspondence for MTW is handled under separate cover.

AHFC continues to lead the statewide Continuum of Care process. AHFC was designated as the collaborative applicant for the "balance of state continuum" (excepting Anchorage) in the HUD 2015 homeless continuum of care grant competition. This facilitated the award of \$762,763 in the 2015 competition.

## **HUD Conclusion**

The SOA directly received a total of \$5,727,555 in federal funds from HUD for housing and community development activities. This investment in Alaska has resulted in the creation and preservation of affordable housing and addressed community development needs, benefiting existing home owners, first time home buyers, homeless persons, and persons with special needs. Based on HUD's review of the SOA's performance in the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs during PY15, the following determinations have been made:

The SOA has carried out its program substantially as described in its Consolidated Plan.

The Consolidated Plan submission, as implemented, complies with the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, and other applicable laws and regulations.

The SOA has the continuing capacity to carry out the approved program.

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.525, this letter will be made available to the public by means of the HUD website at <http://www.hud.gov/local/ak/working/cpd/index.cfm>. Availability of the letter will be announced in the “highlights” section of the webpage, and an electronic copy will be found in the “library” section of the site that can be accessed by clicking on the link in the left hand column of the home page

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Carma Reed, Director of Community Planning and Development, at (907) 677-9890.

Sincerely,

/s/

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